

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04667 111313Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 DODE-00 CPR-01 SSC-01
/062 W

-----070150 112221Z /70

R 110505Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7142
AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4667

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, PK, MX
SUBJECT: NEW PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO

1. THE PAK GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 30 THE APPOINTMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL ABDULLAH SAEED AS AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO. THE FIFTY-ONE YEAR OLD SAEED HAS BEEN IN THE ARMY SINCE 1948 AND ATTENDED THE US ARMY'S ASSOCIATE ADVANCED INFANTRY OFFICER'S COURSE AT FORT BENNING, GEORGIA IN 1959.

2. IN JUNE, 1974, WHILE COMMANDANT OF THE PRESTIGIOUS PAKISTAN MILITARY ACADEMY AT KAKUL, THEN BRIGADIER SAEED, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE MINORITY AHMADIYA RELIGIOUS SECT, BECAME ENMESHED IN WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE SURROUNDING THE AHMADIYAS. AT ONE POINT, RUMORS SPREAD THAT SAEED HAD BEEN KILLED. WHILE THE RUMOR PROVED UNFOUNDED, HE APPARENTLY HAD BEEN ATTACKED AND SLIGHTLY WOUNDED BY ORTHODOX MUSLIMS IN A VILLAGE NEAR THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

3. AT THE TIME, MANY OBSERVERS CONCLUDED THAT THIS INCIDENT WOULD PUT AN END TO WHAT HAD BEEN A MOST PROMISING MILITARY CAREER. THEIR PREDICTIONS WERE CONFOUNDED, HOWEVER, WHEN, LESS THAN SIX MONTHS LATER, SAEED WAS GIVEN COMMAND OF A BRIGADE AND, FROM 1975 TO
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THE PRESENT, AS A MAJOR GENERAL, HE HAS COMMANDED A DIVISION. HIS TOUR IN MEXICO CITY WILL BE HIS FIRST DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENT. HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINR, PK, MX, (SAEED, ABDULLAH)
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